



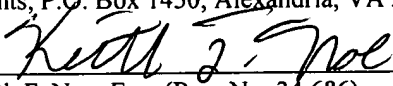
AF/7448
Attorney Docket No. C2013-7105

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

61 Applicant: Steven P. Bibeault et al.
Serial No.: 09/974,022
Filed: October 10, 2001
For: NEEDLE CLEANING SYSTEM
Examiner: T. Snider
Art Unit: 1744
Confirmation No.: 7517

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 8th day of April, 2004.


Keith F. Noe, Esq. (Reg. No. 34,686)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

Sir:


Transmitted herewith are the following documents in connection with the above-identified patent application:

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (3 pgs.);
- ☒ PTO Form 1449 (in duplicate - 1 pg.);
- ☒ References Cited (A1-A3);
- ☒ Check No. 1396 in the amount of \$180.00 for IDS filing fee; and
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (617) 395-7000.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50/2762, Ref. No. C2013-7105. A duplicate copy of this transmittal is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,


Keith F. Noe, Esq. (Reg. No. 34,686)
LOWRIE, LANDO & ANASTASI, LLP
Riverfront Office Park
One Main Street
Cambridge, MA 02142
Tel.: (617) 395-7039
Fax: (617) 395-7070
Attorney for Applicant

Dated: April 8, 2004
740424.1



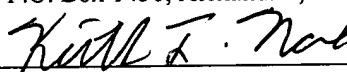
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**STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98**

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed after the mailing date of either a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311 and is being filed on or before payment of an Issue Fee. The Applicant hereby states, as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e), that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart for this application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement. The IDS processing fee of \$180.00 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is enclosed.

Applicant: Steven P. Bibeault et al.
U.S.S.N.: 09/974,022

PART II: Information Cited

The Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

PART III: Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

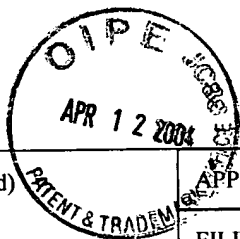
Applicant: Steven P. Bibeault et al.
U.S.S.N.: 09/974,022

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Keith F. Noe
Keith F. Noe, Esq. (Reg. No. 34,686)
LOWRIE, LANDO & ANASTASI, LLP
Riverfront Office Park
One Main Street
Cambridge, MA 02142
Tel.: (617) 395-7039
Fax: (617) 395-7070

Date: April 8, 2004
Attorney Docket No.: C2013-7105



FORM PTO-1449/A and B (Modified) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	APPLICATION NO.: 09/974,022	ATTY. DOCKET NO.: C2013-7105
	FILING DATE: October 10, 2001	CONFIRMATION NO.: 7517
	APPLICANT: Steven P. Bibeault et al.	
	GROUP ART UNIT: 1744	EXAMINER: T. Snider

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication or of issue of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code		
	A1	5,985,029		Purcell	11/16/1999
	A2	6,085,943		Cavallaro et al.	07/11/2000
	A3	6,093,251		Carr et al.	07/25/2000
	A4				
	A5				
	A6				
	A7				
	A8				
	A9				
	A10				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document (not necessary)	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Translation (Y/N)
		Office/ Country	Number	Kind Code			
	B1						
	B2						

OTHER ART — NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS) title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, relevant page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation (Y/N)
	C1		
	C2		
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED

#EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

*a copy of this reference is not provided as it was previously cited by or submitted to the office in a prior application, Serial No. __, filed __, and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120 (continuation, continuation-in-part, and divisional applications).

[NOTE - Must provide a copy of any patent, publication, other information listed, even if it was previously submitted to, or cited by, the U.S. Patent Office in an earlier application, unless the earlier application is identified by the IDS and is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120, and the copy was provided in the earlier application.]